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Pattern Research Project: An Investigation of The Pattern And Printing Process - Bogolanfini

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Bogolanfini



The pattern is made from handmade Malian cotton that's stenciled with fermented mud to create a specialized pattern. According to Luke Boone the pattern can be traced back to the 12th century AD. The fermented mud which is also used as a dye is usually boiled and mashed leaves from the n'gallama tree.



The overall scale of the pattern is $1 = 1'0$ The motifs of the pattern can compose of multiple lines and sometimes a symbol in the middle of that to show a more complex pattern.



During the time period when the fabric was only available where the cloth was produced it was for more of the community and a traditional thing not just for fashion and how the design itself looks. The cloth was initially used for the hunters as a camouflage and as a ritual for protection. The women also wear it as for their initiation into their adulthood and also after childbirth, the cloth is believed to have a power to absorb all negative energy that's released. Each design is meant to tell a story but 2 designs are never meant to be thought of as the same. Some designs and motifs are to be thought of as protective attributes.



Bogolan takes on the challenge of using geometric shapes to create a pattern while still making the piece cultural.

Kassiah Skipwith, December, 2018



Drawings Of the Bogolan Pattern



Mahogany *Brown* *Black* *Tan*

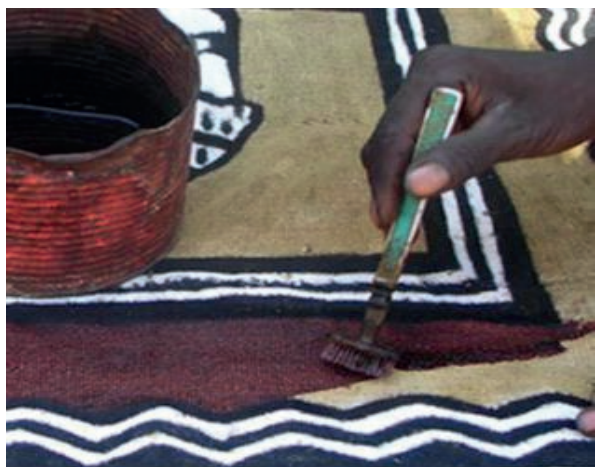
The cloths color usually consists of more red or brown colors .The color comes from the iron- rich mud.The artist traditionally handpainted the negative spaces to let the main space stand out more with the white design.The black mud used at the stage had been harvested in April and had been fermented for a year into an earthen pot, transforming it from a gray color to a grayish black that bogolanfini is best known for.The color is applied with a brush or a stencil and paintbrush daddling method and is most intense when the tannin-rich pods plant have fallen and rotten in the still pod.

Some of the artists have been experimenting with stencils that reverse how the design on the cloth to show how the design is made. With traditional bogolan masters stretch the fabric over a calabash gourd and paint with sticks, to achieve a darker color the master must then apply 2 coats of mud and soak it in a boiled lef mixture to make sure the color has fully penetrated the fabric and get the deepest tone possible.



man weaving the malian cotton with the
 ↑ help from a machine , Mali, 2007
 ↓ Bogolanfini shown for different uses

-The cloth has a very unique style and technique ,which makes the fabric enticing for other artists and designers. People including myself are fond with the fact that boglan is strictly practiced in Mali and isnt made anywhere else in the world.Since its associated with a number of ethnic groups the Bamana version is the most known version.



The fermented mud dye being added onto the fabric. Mali,
cotton and fermented mud



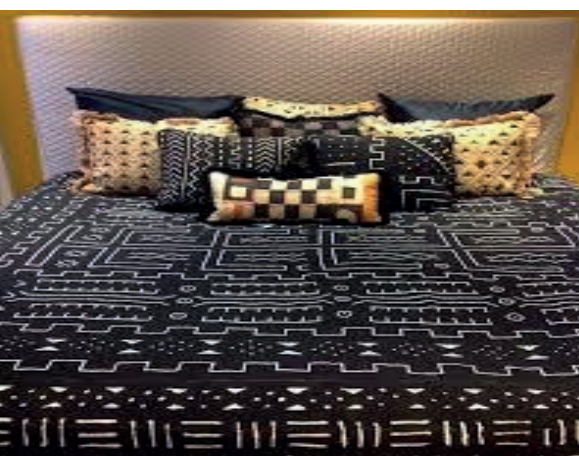
Black bogolan bag with
white printed designs on
it and a gold template in
the middle



Black and white pillow
withh the bogolan con-
temporary design printed
within



Woman walking on a runway
with a contemporary
bogolan design. Australia
January 2013



Black bolan bedding with the unique pattern with black and gold pillow that shows differnt but unique visuals onto them



Woman hanging a variety
ofc different blogolan
cloths. Mali

Shows significance in culture or referring to historical events Traditional technique for coloring cotton cloths by using tannin rich plant extract and iron-rich clay-based mud, were compared using infrared spectroscopy, scanning electron microscopy and X-ray absorption

Yarn is made from large bales of cotton twisted into threads used in weaving or knitting from mills that process them. Stage 1 is called the opening room where the bales are opened and laid in a line on the floor, side by side by the opening machine. The machine moves against the line of bales pulling fibers to be sent in the mixer. The process of pulling fibers into parallel alignment to form is called carding, the web of fibers are condensed into an untwisted strand called silver. The silver continues into the combing machine where the fibers shorter than 1/2 inch are removed and make the silver smoother. More yarn can be produced. The silver then is drawn out into thinner strands and given a slight twist to improve the strength. Then are wound on bobbins, the completed process is called roving. The last process is called spinning, the mills draw and twist the roving into yarn and place them on bobbins with the automatic winding. The bobbins are transferred into larger ones called cheese cones.

citations

- [illegible]